

**MINUTES
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY**

Tuesday, July 10, 2012
6:00 p.m. McCloskey Room, City Hall, 401 North Morton

Next Meeting: Tuesday, September 11, 2012

Roll Call:

Members present: Cynthia Schultz, Claire Cumberland, David Parkhurst, Amy Countryman, Bill Brown, Molly O'Donnell, Ashley Skooglund, David Rollo, Gary Charbonneau

Regrets: Maggie Sullivan, Amanda Figolah, Caleb Steiner, George Huntington

Staff: Laurel Archer, Chad Carwein (Planning intern)

Chair: Cynthia Schultz called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Public Comments:

No public comment

Announcements

Cynthia Schultz in her role as co-chair introduced the newest member to BCOS, Molly O'Donnell. Molly gave a brief introduction of herself to the members.

Claire Cumberland is working on the Waste Reduction Article

David Rollo – no announcement

Ashley Skooglund announced the Monroe County Environmental Quality and Sustainability Commission meeting date changed to 2nd Wednesday

Amy Countryman announced the Local Growers Guild will have a meeting on Sunday at 4:00 p.m. and the Community Orchard workday is coming up on Wednesday, July 11th from 5 – 8 p.m.

Chad Carwein announced he is working on natural landscaping “Lawns for Life” and had information at the Farmer’s Market. He is also working on green infrastructure section for the BEQI Report and looking for information about the tree canopy. He is also working with Professor Brown on green event guidelines and city greening that neighborhoods could use and would be beneficial to give these guidelines to the neighborhood associations.

Bill Brown announced the Hoosier to Hoosier sale is gearing up for the August 11th resale. Last year \$17,000 was raised and donated to charity. Volunteers are needed.

Molly O'Donnell is working on Earth Care and is now targeting churches.

David Rollo would like the commission to start looking at the perpetual growth imperative of the economy and the challenges this creates within the finite limits of the planet. Dave and Gary are interested in giving a 20 minute presentation to the commission at a future meeting.

Cynthia announced she is in education mode, writing and talking on radio shows and working toward a Green Jobs Business certification program.

David Parkhurst reported on two activities of the food policy council, namely that the assessment group was hoping to map private (and other) gardens in the city, and that the group as a whole was drafting a food charter.

Approval of Minutes:

Cynthia stated she has a couple of amendments to the minutes and would like them tabled until the next meeting.

Report on the Taste of Bloomington recycling effort

Claire reported the recycling station was away from the trash. People were trying to recycle, but the recycling station needs to be close to the trash. It was also so hot some people didn't want to make the effort.

Chad stated he was there earlier in the day and the recycling bins were next to the trash bins and easier to identify. Later in the evening it was elbow to elbow and people weren't as careful.

Cynthia stated Jacqui said next year BCOS will work more closely with the Taste of Bloomington organizers.

Claire added she noticed one individual had brought his own plate and cup and the restaurants were receptive.

There was discussion among members if this could be an initiative, but were unclear of Health Department regulations. Ashley Skooglund sits on the Board of Health and will bring this up at their meeting and report back to the group.

Report from the Chair

- a. The August Meeting has been cancelled. The next meeting will be September 11th.
- b. Hoosier to Hoosier needs volunteers.
- c. Need to decide on a focus area for the fall – Professor Schultz is moving forward with his students for a two-phase business certification program that he would like the City or other local organizations to adopt.

Committee reports

Environmental Commission Planning Committee: Still working on the BEQI Report. Trying not to overlap with the STAR Report. One area that has no overlap is Air Quality. There was discussion among members about the BEQI report. Cynthia asked for a list of what will fall under Green Infrastructure. Chad listed Green Cap, Street Trees, Urban Forestry, Urban Agriculture, Gardening and other natural landscaping.

Davie Rollo would like to see a map of gardens in the city.

STAR Committee Report: None given

New Business

Dave Rollo stated the BCOS needs to get involved with the updating of the Growth Policies Plan. This plan is updated every 10 years and there is little to no mention of sustainability in the current version. BCOS could work with the EC toward this initiative.

Tom Micuda will be invited to speak to the group about the GPP.

Ashley Skooglund would like to discuss the next Earth Day. She felt the Energy Fair was very well received and would like to discuss doing something similar next Earth Day and partnering with another group.

Cynthia stated the process will begin for the election of new officers. The election will be in late December. Cynthia stated she and Maggie both would prefer new officers be elected to chair and co-chair.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.